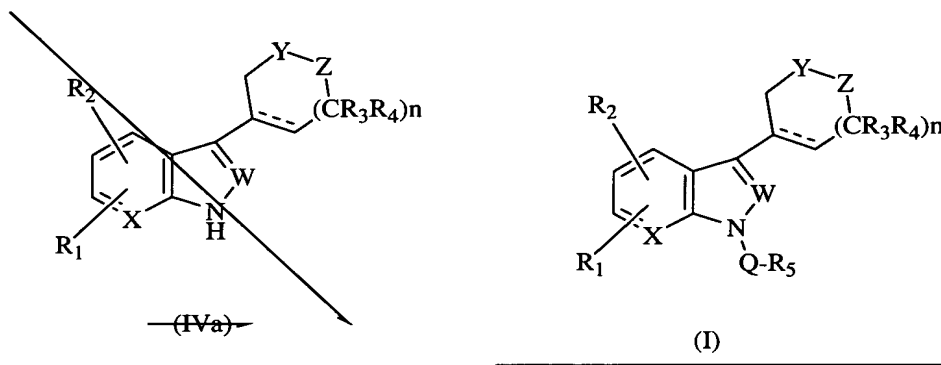


IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula I



wherein

~~Q is SO₂, CO, CONR₂₄, CSNR₂₅ or CH₂;~~

W is N or CR₆;

X is N or CR₇, with the proviso that when W is N then X must be N;

Y is NR₈ or CR₉R₁₀;

n is an integer of 1 ~~[[or 2]]~~;

Z is NR₁₁ or CR₁₂R₁₃, with the proviso that when n is 1, Q is SO₂, CO or CH₂ and W is CR₆ then Z must be CR₁₂R₁₃ and with the further provisos that when Y is NR₈ then Z must be CR₁₂R₁₃ and at least one of Y and Z must be NR₈ or NR₁₁;

R₁, R₂ and R₇ are each independently H, halogen, CN, OCO₂R₁₄, CO₂R₁₅, CONR₂₉R₃₀, CNR₁₆NR₁₇R₁₈, SO_mR₁₉, NR₂₀R₂₁, OR₂₂, COR₂₃ or a C₁-C₆alkyl, C₂-C₆alkenyl, C₂-C₆alkynyl, C₃-C₆cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl group each optionally substituted;

R₃, R₄, R₉, R₁₀, R₁₂ and R₁₃ are each independently H or an optionally substituted C₁-C₆alkyl group;

R₅ is an optionally substituted C₁-C₆alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl group;

m is 0 or an integer of 1 or 2;

R_6 is H, halogen, or an optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, aryl or heteroaryl group;
 R_8 and R_{11} are each independently H, $CNR_{26}NR_{27}R_{28}$ or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl, cycloheteralkyl, aryl or heteroaryl group ~~each optionally substituted~~;
 R_{14} , R_{15} , R_{22} and R_{23} are each independently H or an optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_2 - C_6 alkenyl, C_2 - C_6 alkynyl, C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl group;
 R_{16} , R_{17} , R_{18} , R_{20} , R_{21} , R_{26} , R_{27} , R_{28} , R_{29} and R_{30} are each independently H or C_1 - C_4 alkyl;
 R_{19} is an optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl group;
 R_{24} and R_{25} are each independently H or an optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl group; and
---- represents a single bond or a double bond; or the stereoisomers thereof or the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

2. (Original) The compound according to claim 1 wherein Y is NR_8 .

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Original) The compound according to claim 1 wherein W is N.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Original) The compound according to claim 4 wherein Z is NR_{11} .

7. (Currently Amended) The compound according to claim [[5]] 1 wherein Q is SO_2 and R_5 is an optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl group.

8. (Original) The compound according to claim 7 wherein X is CH and ---- represents a single bond.

9. (Currently Amended) The compound according to claim 1 selected from the group consisting of:

~~1 (phenylsulfonyl) 3 (piperidin 4 yl) 1H indazole;~~
~~1 (4 nitrophenylsulfonyl) 3 (piperidin 4 yl) 1H indazole;~~
~~1 (4 fluorophenylsulfonyl) 3 (piperidin 4 yl) 1H indazole;~~
~~1 (3,4 dimethoxyphenylsulfonyl) 3 (piperidin 4 yl) 1H indazole;~~
~~1 phenylsulfonyl 3 (1 methylpiperidin 4 yl) 1H indazole;~~
~~1 phenylsulfonyl 3 (1 methyl 1,2,3,6 tetrahydropyridin 4 yl) 1H indazole;~~
~~1 phenylsulfonyl 3 (1 methylazepan 4 yl) 1H pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;~~
~~1 phenylsulfonyl 3 (1 methylazepan 4 yl) 1H indole;~~
~~1 phenylsulfonyl 5 fluoro 3 (1 methylazepan 4 yl) 1H indole;~~
~~1 phenylsulfonyl 3 (1 methyl 2,3,6,7 tetrahydro 1H azepin 4 yl) 1H indole;~~
~~1 phenylsulfonyl 3 (1 methyl 2,5,6,7 tetrahydro 1H azepin 4 yl) 1H indole;~~
~~1 phenylsulfonyl 3 (1 methyl 2,3,6,7 tetrahydro 1H azepin 4 yl) 1H pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;~~
~~1 phenylsulfonyl 5 fluoro 3 (1 methyl 2,3,6,7 tetrahydro 1H azepin 4 yl) 1H indole;~~
~~1 phenylsulfonyl 5 fluoro 3 (1 methyl 2,5,6,7 tetrahydro 1H azepin 4 yl) 1H indole;~~
~~1 phenylsulfonyl 5 chloro 3 (1 methylpiperidin 4 yl) 1H indazole;~~
~~5 methoxy 3 (1 methyl 1,2,3,6 tetrahydropyridin 4 yl) 1 (naphth 1 yl sulfonyl) 1H indazole;~~
~~3 (1 methylazepan 4 yl) 1 (naphth 1 yl sulfonyl) 1H pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;~~
~~3 (1 methylazepan 4 yl) 1 (naphth 1 yl sulfonyl) 1H indole;~~
~~1 (benzo[b]thien 4 ylsulfonyl) 5 fluoro 3 (1 methylazepan 4 yl) 1H indole;~~
~~8 [3 (1 methyl 2,3,6,7 tetrahydro 1H azepin 4 yl) indole 1 sulfonyl] quinoline;~~
~~3 (1 methyl 2,5,6,7 tetrahydro 1H azepin 4 yl) 1 (naphth 1 ylsulfonyl) 1H indole;~~
~~8 [3 (1 methyl 2,3,6,7 tetrahydro 1H azepin 4 yl) pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine 1 sulfonyl] quinoline;~~

~~8-[5-fluoro-3-(1-methyl-2,3,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-azepin-4-yl)-indole-1-sulfonyl]-quinoline;~~
~~5-fluoro-3-(1-methyl-2,5,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-azepin-4-yl)-1-(naphth-1-ylsulfonyl)-1H-indole;~~
~~5-chloro-1-(3-fluorophenylsulfonyl)-3-piperidin-4-yl-1H-indazole;~~
~~5-methoxy-1-(naphth-1-ylsulfonyl)-3-(1,2,2-trimethyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydro-pyridin-4-yl)-1H-indazole;~~
~~1-(naphth-1-ylsulfonyl)-3-(1-phenethyl-azepan-4-yl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;~~
~~3-azepan-4-yl-1-(naphth-1-ylsulfonyl)-1H-indole;~~
~~3-azepan-4-yl-1-(3-chloro-5-methyl-benzo[b]thien-2-ylsulfonyl)-5-fluoro-1H-indole;~~
~~8-[3-(1-phenethyl-2,3,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-azepin-4-yl)-indole-1-sulfonyl]-quinoline;~~
~~3-[1-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-2,5,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-azepin-4-yl]-1-(naphth-2-ylsulfonyl)-1H-indole;~~
~~1-(2,3-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-3-(1-methyl-2,3,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-azepin-4-yl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;~~
~~1-[(3-chloro-5-methoxyphenylsulfonyl)]-3-(2,2-dimethyl-2,3,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-azepin-4-yl)-5-fluoro-1H-indole;~~
~~3-azepan-4-yl-5-fluoro-1-(naphth-2-ylsulfonyl)-1H-indole;~~
1-benzenesulfonyl-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-indole;
1-(4-isopropyl-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-indole;
1-(5-chloro-thiophene-2-sulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-indole;
1-(3-chloro-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-indole;
1-(3,4-difluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-indole;
1-(4-trifluoromethoxy-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-indole;
1-(4-methoxy-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-indole;
1-(4-trifluoromethoxy-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-indole;
1-(3-chloro-4-methyl-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-indole;
1-(2-chloro-4-trifluoromethyl-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-indole;
1-(2-naphthylsulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-indole;
1-(5-chloro-3-methyl-benzo[b]thiophene-2-sulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-indole;

1-(2,6-dichloro-imidazo[2,1-b]thiazole-5-sulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-indole;
2-chloro-3-(3-piperidin-3-yl-indole-1-sulfonyl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine;
2-chloro-3-(3-piperidin-3-yl-indole-1-sulfonyl)-benzo[d]imidazo[2,1-b]thiazole;
1-(4-isopropyl-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;
1-(5-chloro-thiophene-2-sulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;
1-(3-chloro-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;
1-(3,4-difluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;
1-(4-trifluoromethoxy-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;
1-(3-chloro-4-methyl-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;
1-(2-chloro-4-trifluoromethyl-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;
1-(2-naphthylenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;
1-(5-chloro-3-methyl-benzo[b]thiophene-2-sulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;
2-chloro-3-(3-piperidin-3-yl-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine-1-sulfonyl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine;
2-chloro-3-(3-piperidin-3-yl-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine-1-sulfonyl)-benzo[d]imidazo[2,1-b]thiazole; and
the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

10. (Cancelled)

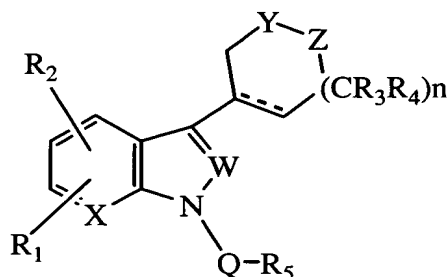
11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and an effective amount of a compound of formula I



(I)

wherein

Q is ~~SO₂, CO, CONR₂₄, CSNR₂₅ or CH₂~~;

W is N or CR₆;

X is N or CR₇, with the proviso that when W is N then X must be N;

Y is NR₈ or CR₉R₁₀;

n is an integer of 1 ~~[[or 2]]~~;

Z is NR₁₁ or CR₁₂R₁₃, with the proviso that when n is 1, Q is SO₂, CO or CH₂ and W is CR₆ then Z must be CR₁₂R₁₃ and with the further provisos that when Y is NR₈ then Z must be CR₁₂R₁₃ and at least one of Y and Z must be NR₈ or NR₁₁;

R₁, R₂ and R₇ are each independently H, halogen, CN, OCO₂R₁₄, CO₂R₁₅, CONR₂₉R₃₀, CNR₁₆NR₁₇R₁₈, SO_mR₁₉, NR₂₀R₂₁, OR₂₂, COR₂₃ or a C₁-C₆alkyl, C₂-C₆alkenyl, C₂-C₆alkynyl, C₃-C₆cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl group each optionally substituted;

R₃, R₄, R₉, R₁₀, R₁₂ and R₁₃ are each independently H or an optionally substituted C₁-C₆alkyl group;

R₅ is an optionally substituted C₁-C₆alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl group;

m is 0 or an integer of 1 or 2;

R₆ is H, halogen, or an optionally substituted C₁-C₆alkyl, C₁-C₆alkoxy, aryl or heteroaryl group;

R_8 and R_{11} are each independently H, $CNR_{26}NR_{27}R_{28}$ or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl, cycloheteralkyl, aryl or heteroaryl group ~~each optionally substituted~~;

R_{14} , R_{15} , R_{22} and R_{23} are each independently H or an optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_2 - C_6 alkenyl, C_2 - C_6 alkynyl, C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl group;

R_{16} , R_{17} , R_{18} , R_{20} , R_{21} , R_{26} , R_{27} , R_{28} , R_{29} and R_{30} are each independently H or C_1 - C_4 alkyl;

R_{19} is an optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl group;

R_{24} and R_{25} are each independently H or an optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl group; and

---- represents a single bond or a double bond; or the stereoisomers thereof or the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

16. (Original) The composition according to claim 15 having a formula I compound wherein n is 1; Q is SO_2 ; Y is NR_8 ; and X is CR_7 .

17. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 15 having a formula I compound wherein Q is SO_2 ; X is CR_7 ; and Z is NR_{11} .

18. (Original) The composition according to claim 16 having a formula I compound wherein R_5 is an optionally substituted aryl group and --- represents a single bond.

19. (Currently Amended) The composition according to claim 15 having a formula I compound selected from the group consisting of:

~~1 (phenylsulfonyl) 3 (piperidin 4 yl) 1H indazole;~~

~~1 (4 nitrophenylsulfonyl) 3 (piperidin 4 yl) 1H indazole;~~

~~1 (4 fluorephenylsulfonyl) 3 (piperidin 4 yl) 1H indazole;~~

~~1 (3,4 dimethoxyphenylsulfonyl) 3 (piperidin 4 yl) 1H indazole;~~

~~1 phenylsulfonyl 3 (1 methylpiperidin 4 yl) 1H indazole;~~

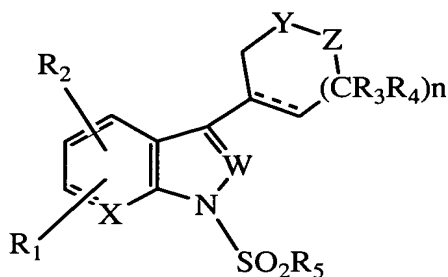
~~1 phenylsulfonyl 3 (1 methyl 1,2,3,6 tetrahydropyridin 4 yl) 1H indazole;~~

~~1 phenylsulfonyl 3 (1 methylazepan 4 yl) 1H pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;~~
~~1 phenylsulfonyl 3 (1 methylazepan 4 yl) 1H indole;~~
~~1 phenylsulfonyl 5 fluoro 3 (1 methylazepan 4 yl) 1H indole;~~
~~1 phenylsulfonyl 3 (1 methyl 2,3,6,7 tetrahydro 1H azepin 4 yl) 1H indole;~~
~~1 phenylsulfonyl 3 (1 methyl 2,5,6,7 tetrahydro 1H azepin 4 yl) 1H indole;~~
~~1 phenylsulfonyl 3 (1 methyl 2,3,6,7 tetrahydro 1H azepin 4 yl) 1H pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;~~
~~1 phenylsulfonyl 5 fluoro 3 (1 methyl 2,3,6,7 tetrahydro 1H azepin 4 yl) 1H indole;~~
~~1 phenylsulfonyl 5 fluoro 3 (1 methyl 2,5,6,7 tetrahydro 1H azepin 4 yl) 1H indole;~~
~~1 phenylsulfonyl 5 chloro 3 (1 methylpiperidin 4 yl) 1H indazole;~~
~~5 methoxy 3 (1 methyl 1,2,3,6 tetrahydropyridin 4 yl) 1 (naphth 1 yl sulfonyl) 1H indazole;~~
~~3 (1 methylazepan 4 yl) 1 (naphth 1 yl sulfonyl) 1H pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;~~
~~3 (1 methylazepan 4 yl) 1 (naphth 1 yl sulfonyl) 1H indole;~~
~~1 (benzo[b]thien 4 ylsulfonyl) 5 fluoro 3 (1 methylazepan 4 yl) 1H indole;~~
~~8 [3 (1 methyl 2,3,6,7 tetrahydro 1H azepin 4 yl) indole 1 sulfonyl] quinoline;~~
~~3 (1 methyl 2,5,6,7 tetrahydro 1H azepin 4 yl) 1 (naphth 1 ylsulfonyl) 1H indole;~~
~~8 [3 (1 methyl 2,3,6,7 tetrahydro 1H azepin 4 yl) pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine 1 sulfonyl] quinoline;~~
~~8 [5 fluoro 3 (1 methyl 2,3,6,7 tetrahydro 1H azepin 4 yl) indole 1 sulfonyl] quinoline;~~
~~5 fluoro 3 (1 methyl 2,5,6,7 tetrahydro 1H azepin 4 yl) 1 (naphth 1 ylsulfonyl) 1H indole;~~
~~5 chloro 1 (3 fluorophenylsulfonyl) 3 piperidin 4 yl 1H indazole;~~
~~5 methoxy 1 (naphth 1 ylsulfonyl) 3 (1,2,2 trimethyl 1,2,3,6 tetrahydro pyridin 4 yl) 1H indazole;~~
~~1 (naphth 1 ylsulfonyl) 3 (1 phenethyl azepan 4 yl) 1H pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;~~

~~3-azepan-4-yl-1-(naphth-1-ylsulfonyl)-1H-indole;~~
~~3-azepan-4-yl-1-(3-chloro-5-methyl-benzo[b]thien-2-ylsulfonyl)-5-fluoro-1H-indole;~~
~~8-[3-(1-phenethyl-2,3,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-azepin-4-yl)-indole-1-sulfonyl]-quinoline;~~
~~3-[1-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)-2,5,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-azepin-4-yl]-1-(naphth-2-ylsulfonyl)-1H-indole;~~
~~1-(2,3-dichlorophenylsulfonyl)-3-(1-methyl-2,3,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-azepin-4-yl)-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;~~
~~1-[(3-chloro-5-methoxyphenylsulfonyl)]-3-(2,2-dimethyl-2,3,6,7-tetrahydro-1H-azepin-4-yl)-5-fluoro-1H-indole;~~
~~3-azepan-4-yl-5-fluoro-1-(naphth-2-ylsulfonyl)-1H-indole;~~
1-benzenesulfonyl-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-indole;
1-(4-isopropyl-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-indole;
1-(5-chloro-thiophene-2-sulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-indole;
1-(3-chloro-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-indole;
1-(3,4-difluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-indole;
1-(4-trifluoromethoxy-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-indole;
1-(4-methoxy-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-indole;
1-(4-trifluoromethyl-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-indole;
1-(3-chloro-4-methyl-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-indole;
1-(2-chloro-4-trifluoromethyl-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-indole;
1-(2-naphthylsulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-indole;
1-(5-chloro-3-methyl-benzo[b]thiophene-2-sulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-indole;
1-(2,6-dichloro-imidazo[2,1-b]thiazole-5-sulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-indole;
2-chloro-3-(3-piperidin-3-yl-indole-1-sulfonyl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine;
2-chloro-3-(3-piperidin-3-yl-indole-1-sulfonyl)-benzo[d]imidazo[2,1-b]thiazole;
1-(4-isopropyl-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;
1-(5-chloro-thiophene-2-sulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;

1-(3-chloro-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;
 1-(3,4-difluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;
 1-(4-trifluoromethoxy-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;
 1-(3-chloro-4-methyl-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;
 1-(2-chloro-4-trifluoromethyl-benzenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;
 1-(2-naphthylenesulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;
 1-(5-chloro-3-methyl-benzo[b]thiophene-2-sulfonyl)-3-piperidin-3-yl-1H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine;
 2-chloro-3-(3-piperidin-3-yl-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine-1-sulfonyl)-imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine;
 2-chloro-3-(3-piperidin-3-yl-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyridine-1-sulfonyl)-benzo[d]imidazo[2,1-b]thiazole; and
 the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

20. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula If



(If)

wherein

Q is SO₂, CO, CONR₂₄, CSNR₂₅ or CH₂;

W is N or CR₆;

X is N or CR, with the proviso that when W is N then X must be N;

Y is NR₈ or CR₉R₁₀;

n is an integer of 1 [[or 2]];

Z is NR_{11} or $\text{CR}_{12}\text{R}_{13}$ with the proviso that when n is 1, Q is SO_2 , CO or CH_2 and W is CR_6 then Z must be $\text{CR}_{12}\text{R}_{13}$ and with the further provisos that when Y is NR_8 then Z must be $\text{CR}_{12}\text{R}_{13}$ and at least one of Y and Z must be NR_8 or NR_{11} ;

R_1 , R_2 and R_7 are each independently H, halogen, CN, $\text{OCO}_2\text{R}_{14}$, CO_2R_{15} , $\text{CONR}_{29}\text{R}_{30}$, $\text{CNR}_{16}\text{NR}_{17}\text{R}_{18}$, SO_mR_{19} , $\text{NR}_{20}\text{R}_{21}$, OR_{22} , COR_{23} or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_2 - C_6 alkenyl, C_2 - C_6 alkynyl, C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl group each optionally substituted;

R_3 , R_4 , R_9 , R_{10} , R_{12} and R_{13} are each independently H or an optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl group;

R_5 is an optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl group;

m is 0 or an integer of 1 or 2;

R_6 is H, halogen, or an optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, aryl or heteroaryl group;

R_8 and R_{11} are each independently H, $\text{CNR}_{26}\text{NR}_{27}\text{R}_{28}$ or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl group ~~each optionally substituted~~;

R_{14} , R_{15} , R_{22} and R_{23} are each independently H or an optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_2 - C_6 alkenyl, C_2 - C_6 alkynyl, C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl group;

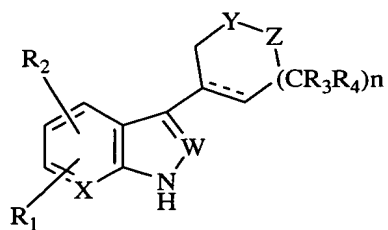
R_{16} , R_{17} , R_{18} , R_{20} , R_{21} , R_{26} , R_{27} , R_{28} , R_{29} and R_{30} are each independently H or C_1 - C_4 alkyl;

R_{19} is an optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl group;

R_{24} and R_{25} are each independently H or an optionally substituted C_1 - C_6 alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl group; and

---- represents a single bond or a double bond

which process comprises reacting a compound of formula IVA



(IVa)

wherein W , X , Y , Z , n , R_1 , R_2 , R_3 and R_4 are as defined above with a sulfonyl chloride, R_5SO_2Cl , wherein R_5 is defined above in the presence of a base.